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### ABSTRACT

A viscoelastic composition for injection into a human eye comprised of about 2.0 to 2.5 percent of hydroxypropyl methylcellulose dissolved in a physiological salt solution, the composition, the composition having a viscosity from about 15,000 to about 40,000 centipoise and the hydroxypropyl methylcellulose having a molecular weight from about 220,000 to less than about 420,000 Daltons, the composition being free of debris or gels greater than 0.5  $\mu\text{m}$ . Also described is a process for preparing the clean, high molecular weight hydroxypropylmethyl cellulose composition.

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